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BRIEF ARTICLES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

REPORT OF GROUP MEETING "SPANISH I" OF THE MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA,

Baltimore, Md., December 29, 1921

Chairman, Professor E. C. Hills, University of Indiana.

Secretary, Professor Henry Grattan Doyle, George Washington University.

The subject was "An informal discussion of the Spanish-American and Brazilian literatures, with especial emphasis on their place in the curricula of our schools and colleges." The chairman opened the discussion with brief remarks on the diversity of opinion existing, as shown by letters from well-known teachers, some advocating no separation of Spanish-American literature from Spanish literature as a whole, others that the Spanish-American field be largely taken over by the history departments, using history as the main avenue of approach, etc. Among the letters read were communications from Jacob Warshaw, University of Nebraska, advocating that about one-third of the time of the regular courses be given to Spanish-American material; A. L. Owen, University of Kansas, that Spanish-American material should be incidental to the regular courses in Spanish literature, which should be treated as a whole; H. R. Lang, Yale University, that Spanish-American literature be studied outside, by private reading, since the mainsprings of Spanish literature are in the peninsula; G. T. Northup, University of Chicago, that South America be made known by history teachers, as the literature is uninteresting and unimportant; E. W. Olmsted, University of Minnesota, who is favorable to the teaching of the literature of Spanish America, but wishes its history also to be taught; F. O. Reed, University of Wisconsin, who in view of the limited time available, believes the continental literature should receive most of the attention; Alfred Coester, Stanford University, who advocated more attention to both Spanish-American literature and to Portuguese; M. B. Jones, Pomona College, who also stressed the value of Portuguese; G. W. Umphrey, University of Washington, who admitted the superiority of Spanish literature to that of Spanish America, although his present interest is largely in the Spanish-American field; L. A. Wilkins, Director of Modern Languages in the Schools of New York City; and others. A letter from Dr. Castro Ruiz, Counsellor of the Chilean Embassy, was read by Mr. Charles L. Chandler, of the Corn Exchange National Bank, Philadelphia. Dr. Castro gave a sketch of Chilean literature, and Mr. Chandler, in commenting on the letter, said that business men going to Spanish America need to know not only the language but the culture, especially the literature, of the people.

The discussion which followed was participated in by J. P. Wickersham Crawford, University of Pennsylvania; W. A. Hendrix, Ohio State University; J. A. Robertson, editor of the *Hispanic-American Historical Review*; J. D. Fitz-Gerald, University of Illinois; F. B. Luquiens, Yale University; R. H. Keniston, Cornell University; J. de Siqueira Coutinho, George Washington

University; R. Schevill, University of California; C. C. Marden, Princeton University; J. Moreno-Lacalle, Middleburg College; and Lilia Casis, University of Texas.

The discussion of the place of Spanish-American literature in the curricula of our schools and colleges made it clear that few universities are offering such courses at the present time, but that it is planned to introduce one or more of these courses into several of the universities soon. Some of the speakers preferred to consider the Spanish-American literature merely as a division of Spanish literature as a whole and not attempt to organize special classes. Others favored offering at least one course in Spanish-American literature to seniors, while still others preferred to wait until students enter the graduate school and give them intensive courses. The discussion brought out the fact, however, that in most of our universities both trained teachers and a sufficient number of books are lacking at the present time. There was general recognition of the value of Spanish-American literature. The discussion also brought to light the impression that the Portuguese and Brazilian literatures are sadly neglected in this country and that more work ought to be done in this field.

OFICINA DE RELACIONES CULTURAS ESPAÑOLAS

[Hemos recibido de Madrid la siguiente circular que anuncia la creación por el Ministerio de Estado de España de una Oficina de Relaciones Culturales Españolas, que publicamos en nuestra revista por ser de grande interés para nuestros lectores.]

MINISTERIO DE ESTADO

CREACIÓN DE UNA OFICINA DE RELACIONES CULTURAS ESPAÑOLAS

Por Real Orden de 17 de noviembre último se ha creado en el Ministerio de Estado de España una Oficina de Relaciones culturales españolas. Entre las finalidades que han de constituir objeto de la preocupación de este Centro, como fácilmente se desprende de su título, figura, con carácter previo, el lograr informaciones, tan exactas como sea posible, sobre cuanto atañe al interés que se siente en el extranjero por conocer las manifestaciones de nuestra cultura, la lengua, el arte, la literatura y la ciencia.

España no puede estar alejada del movimiento cada vez más creciente en pró del español en todos los países de cultura, y desea, en la manera que le sea posible contribuir a esa expansión de su idioma y velar también por que el español no desaparezca en las regiones en que se habló desde antiguo.

Esta oficina, creada por el Ministro de Estado, Don Manuel Gonzales Honoria y constituida por una Comisión de asesores formada por Don Américo Castro y Don Blas Cabrera, catedráticos de la Universidad de Madrid y por Don Amós Salvador, arquitecto, está dirigida por Don Justo Gómez-Ocerin Primer Secretario de Embajada, y tiene por Secretario a Don Antonio G. Solalinde, del Centro de Estudios históricos.

La nueva Oficina ruega a los profesores de español y a toda persona interesada en las cosas de España que se dirija a ella para toda clase de informaciones sobre España, a las que se contestará rápidamente, así como también querría recibir iniciativas que se estudiarían a fin de llevarlas a la práctica.

ALFONSO XIII HONORS AMERICAN HISPANISTS

From Madrid word has been sent to me, as President of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish, to the effect that His Majesty, Alfonso XIII, in January conferred upon some of our members certain distinguished knightly honors, all in the Real Orden de Isabel la Católica, and according to the following classification:

Real Orden de Isabel la Católica:

Comendador con placa:

Hugo Albert Rennert, University of Pennsylvania
Charles Carroll Marden, Princeton University
Jeremiah Denis Mathias Ford, Harvard University
Aurelio Macedonio Espinosa, Stanford University
John Driscoll Fitz-Gerald, University of Illinois

Comendador con cinta:

Elijah Clarence Hills, Indiana University
Everett Ward Olmsted, University of Minnesota
Charles Philip Wagner, University of Michigan

Caballero:

Alfred Lester Coester, Stanford University
William Samuel Hendrix, Ohio State University
George Tyler Northup, University of Chicago
George Wallace Umphrey, University of Washington

In the name of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish I wish to express to His Majesty the Association's high appreciation of the honor conferred upon the Association through His Majesty's gracious act in thus honoring so many of its members.

JOHN D. FITZ-GERALD,
President.

SPANISH ROYAL ACADEMY HONORS AMERICAN HISPANISTS

We have learned through the official *Boletín* that three of our members have recently been elected Corresponding Members of the REAL ACADEMIA ESPAÑOLA DE LA LENGUA, the oldest of Spain's Royal Academies, and the one to which are specifically entrusted the linguistic and literary interests of the nation. The gentlemen thus honored are:

Juan C. Cebrián, of San Francisco, one of our Honorary Presidents
Elijah Clarence Hills, of Indiana University, our Third Vice President
Aurelio M. Espinosa, of Stanford University, the Editor of our official organ, *HISPANIA*.

To each of these gentlemen I wish to express my personal congratulations; and to the REAL ACADEMIA ESPAÑOLA, in the name of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish, I wish to express our profound gratitude for the high honor conferred directly upon our colleagues, and indirectly upon us as an Association.

JOHN D. FITZ-GERALD,
President.

SEÑOR GARCÍA SOLALINDE COMING TO THE UNITED STATES

Our distinguished friend and colleague, don Antonio García Solalinde, professor of Spanish Literature in the Centro de Estudios Históricos, Madrid, Secretary of the Cursos de Verano, and well known by many of the American teachers of Spanish who have visited Spain, has been appointed official lecturer of the Instituto de las Españas for the year 1922-1923 and will arrive in New York early in July. He will first give a series of lectures in the Summer Session of Columbia University and will later visit other universities. Señor García Solalinde is one of Menéndez Pidal's most brilliant pupils and one of the leaders of the intellectuals of modern Spain. His coming to America will be hailed with delight by his many friends here and by all friends of Spanish culture.

BANQUET IN HONOR OF MR. WILKINS

The evening of February 4, 1922, the New York Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish, with the Instituto de Las Españas and the French teachers of New York and distinguished guests gathered at the Hotel Marseilles to honor Mr. Lawrence A. Wilkins, upon whom the Spanish government conferred the title of "Comendador con placa de la Real Orden de Isabel la Católica" in recognition of his remarkable work in advancing the teaching of Spanish in the United States.

Mr. Wilkins gave a very interesting account of the modern language situation in Spain and the course of lectures on the teaching of modern languages in the United States which he gave under the auspices of the Junta para Ampliación de Estudios.

The following letter from Professor Ortega, of the University of Wisconsin, paying high tribute to Mr. Wilkins for his educational achievements in the United States and in Spain, was read at the banquet:

Sres. Organizadores del Banquete en honor de Mr. Lawrence A. Wilkins:

Los aquí reunidos festejan a Mr. Lawrence A. Wilkins, el paladín de la causa de España en Norte América. Ya que las circunstancias no me permiten estar presente en acto tan justo y simpático, séame permitido expresar con unas palabras llenas de cordial efusión mi homenaje admirativo hacia el hombre que acaba de llegar de tierras españolas donde ha puesto bien alto el prestigio de los educadores americanos.

Yo he seguido con interés la peregrinación de Mr. Wilkins en España. Yo he oído de sus labios frases entusiastas por un día futuro en que la compenetración de vuestra raza y la mía sea un hecho consumado. Yo le he visto inspeccionar las enseñanzas del Centro de Estudios Históricos y hacer indicaciones tendientes a una mejor adaptación de los cursos a vuestras necesidades, a las necesidades de los maestros norteamericanos. Porque para él los maestros son lo primero y lo de en medio y lo último. El lo ve todo a través de vosotros; el todo lo acomoda a su concepción favorita de construir desde abajo, desde la escuela superior, el edificio de la educación nacional norteamericana.

Yo he recibido cartas de algunas personas con quienes Mr. Wilkins ha hablado en España. Esas cartas dicen que el caballero americano Mr. Wilkins es un hombre cabal, que habla un castellano cabal y que piensa en nuestras cosas con fraternal amor. Yo conozco a Mr. Wilkins y he sabido apreciar su hombría de bien, su generosidad, su inteligencia.

Esa condecoración que el Gobierno español ha colocado en el pecho de nuestro amigo es un símbolo de gratitud de los españoles para el hombre que tanto nos ama y tan bien nos comprende.

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

Professor Alice H. Bushee, Wellesley College, Chairman.

Miss Lois K. Hartman, Stadium High School, Tacoma, Washington.

Dr. Homero Serís, 561 W. 175th St., New York City.

Professor G. W. Umphrey, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington.

Mr. J. J. Arnao, Jr., 150 Lincoln Ave., Newark, New Jersey.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON HONORARY MEMBERS

The Standing Committee on Honorary Members has been reappointed.

(Signed) JOHN D. FITZ-GERALD,
President.

NEW ASSOCIATE EDITORS

By vote of the Executive Council the following persons have been appointed Associate Editors of HISPANIA for the term 1922-24:

Mrs. Gracia Fernández de Arias, New Utrecht H. S., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Professor Charles A. Turrell, University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona.

Professor George W. Umphrey, University of Washington.

JOHN D. FITZ-GERALD,
President.

A WORD FROM THE EDITOR

The President of our Association, Professor Fitz-Gerald, made a special request in his address last December (see February HISPANIA, page 47) for material for the Local Chapters and Notes and News sections of our journal. This request has been made before by the editors, and we again beg to call special attention to it. To Mrs. Fernández de Arias, the historiographer of the local chapters, should be sent all news of the activities of the local chapters. Secretaries of these local chapters are urged to coöperate with Mrs. Fernández de Arias in this important phase of our work. Notes and news should be sent to Miss Sylvia M. Vollmer, Junior College, El Paso, Texas. All activities not directly related to the chapter meetings are prepared for publication in HISPANIA by Miss Vollmer. All news about modern language meetings, activities of Spanish clubs, personal items about Spanish teachers and students, all these matters are of interest to Miss Vollmer.